Government Officials' visit to Western Countries

1976. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many top Government Officials accept invitation from multi-national firms to visit western countries on one pretext or the other;

(b) if so, how many such Officials are on tour and to which places; and

(c) the details, from where such invitations have come?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir. Instructions have been issued that officers should not accept any invitation for participation in Symposia, Seminars, etc. abroad without prior clearance of the competent authority. All officers are required to follow these instructions.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to part (a) above, questions do not arise.

Taking Clearance for Visit Abroad

1977. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any circular asking top Government Officials not to visit western countries without taking clearance from proper authority in this respect;

(b) whether any official had actually visited any foreign city in violation of the rule; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken for violating the rule of conduct?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to part (a) above, questions do not arise.

Clearance to External Commercial Loans

1978. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI S. AUSTIN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications received by the Union Government seeking clearance for external commercial loans during the last six months;

(b) the number of such applications cleared during the above period; and

(c) the total amount of commercial loans cleared during the current year till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) During the period June 1, 1994 to November 30, 1994, 267 applications were received by the Government of India for availing of external commercial loans of maturity greater than one year but excluding defence debt. Out of these, 144 have been given clearance under approved guidelines for external commercial borrowings. The total amount of external commercial loans cleared during this period aggregate to USD 2095.222 mio. equivalent. During the current financial year, April 1, 1994 till November 30, 1994, the total amount of external commercial loans approved aggregate to USD 2856.613 mio. equivalent.

India's Agreement with other Countries to Avoid Double Taxation

1979. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the particulars of the countries with whom India has so far signed agreements to avoid double taxation and to prevent fiscal evasion with regard to the taxes on income indicating the effective dates of these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): The information regarding notified Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements is given in the Statement.

Statement

India's Double Taxation avoidance Agreements

S. No.	Name of country	Effective from Assessment year
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Australia	1993-94
2.	Austria	1963-64
3.	Bangladesh	1993-94
4.	Belgium (Original)	1975-76/ 1976-77
5.	Belgium (S. Protocol)	1988-89/ 1989-90
6.	Brazil	1994-95
7.	Canada	1987-88
8.	Czechoslovakia	1986-87
9.	Denmark	1990-91/ 1991-92
10.	Finland	1985-86
11.	France (Original)	1970-71/ 1971-72